



Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending May 9, 2010

WEST AND MIDDLE TENNESSEE FARMERS BEGIN FLOOD RECOVERY

Many farmers last week began to assess the damage from the previous weekend’s record-shattering floods, but others remained unable to access their fields due to standing water. Rivers and creeks did not crest until the middle of the week, leaving fields under water and littering land with debris, stones and dirt. By week’s end, the water levels of most rivers had subsided below flood stage. In some cases, the wheat crop was completely lost and corn will have to be replanted. Livestock growers also suffered serious casualties. Many areas in East Tennessee were unaffected by the flood and some were able to cut hay last week. Farmers continued at a slow pace to plant cotton and soybeans in the fields that were not flooded.

There were 3 days suitable for fieldwork last week. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 2 percent short, 56 percent adequate and 42 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 2 percent short, 60 percent adequate and 38 percent surplus. The areas of short moisture were located in East Tennessee, while all other areas had adequate-to-surplus levels. Temperatures across the state were above normal, with some areas in East Tennessee reaching 7 to 9 degrees above normal.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2009	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Corn – Planted	88	86	75	87	Apples	0	3	10	74	13
Corn – Emerged	74	62	51	66	Hay	2	7	28	52	11
Cotton – Planted	14	8	6	22	Pastures	1	6	24	58	11
Soybeans – Planted	10	7	5	12	Winter Wheat	2	6	25	49	18
Winter Wheat – Headed	73	36	85	86						

County Agent Comments

“Heavy rains the end of last week and flooding from Forked Deer River and Obion River has several thousand acres damaged or lost. It will probably be two to three weeks before many acres in bottom areas will be dry enough to get back into, and that depends on weather.”

Tim Campbell, Dyer County

“The heavy rains from last weekend caused heavy flooding along the Forked Deer, Hatchie and Mississippi River Bottoms. With the Mississippi River to crest at 34.5' in Memphis on 5/10, we wait to see how many total acres we will lose in the Ashport and Hales Point Bottoms. On a good note, we have begun to plant cotton in the hills.”

James Griffen, Lauderdale County

“Beginning last Friday, Tipton County received between 14" and 16" of rainfall, ending on Sunday. Widespread flash flooding damaged thousands of acres of cropland and pastures across the county. Water still stands on thousands of acres.”

Micheal Morris, Tipton County

“Flooding in low lying areas. Some fields still have standing water. Some corn and cotton will be lost. Some will be replanted due to soil (mud) covering plants. Areas of fields scoured out, sand deposits etc. Numerous levee failures. Roads are damaged and closed, making field access difficult.”

Richard Buntin, Crockett County

“Weakley County received varying amounts of rainfall this past weekend. Severe river bottom flooding and hillside erosion affected many acres of corn. Producers have been able to harvest some first-cutting of hay, spray post-emerge herbicides in corn, spray burn-down herbicides and begin soybean and cotton planting.”

Jeff Lannom, Weakley County

“Devastation in Hickman County. Still determining agricultural losses. Many producers still do not know what all was lost and/or damaged. The wheat we had is pretty much destroyed; corn that was planted in April in the Duck River bottoms were completely covered with water - although it has gone down in many places now. Livestock has been lost - some have been buried - others have washed down the river.”

Troy Duggar, Hickman County

“Corn and wheat underwater in places. Corn along creeks has suffered serious damage due to flooding and loss of top soil. Questions still remain about best approach to replanting. Fences were heavily damaged.”

Allie Correll, Wilson County

“Little if any flooding of any consequence. Farmers back in field late week. A little hay cut and harvested.”

J. Dale Beaty, Warren County

“Thankfully, we missed all the flooding received in Middle and West Tennessee. Hay crop looks great. Strawberries are ripening with high yields expected.”

Mannie Bedwell, Hamblen County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION										
For week ending: May 9, 2010 (with comparisons)										
LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending May 9, 2010				Current Week 5/9/10	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
West										
Ames_Plantation	90	47	69	4	1.56	1	25.38	4.31	12.30	5.00
Brownsville_TN	88	47	70	4	0.50	1	41.89	21.00	30.33	23.24
Covington	86	48	69	4	0.03	1	26.44	5.55	14.83	7.62
Dyersburg	90	49	71	5	0.12	1	16.73	-2.22	6.96	0.83
Huntingdon_Wate	88	45	69	5	0.51	1	22.19	2.24	11.62	5.43
Jackson_Exp_Stn	89	46	70	5	0.32	1	29.46	9.44	18.14	11.40
Lexington_TN	87	45	67	4	1.78	1	28.70	9.37	15.46	9.32
Martin	90	42	70	6	0.04	1	18.04	-1.68	7.91	1.43
Memphis_AG	91	51	71	4	0.07	1	25.54	5.02	12.58	5.55
Milan	88	42	69	5	0.57	1	30.82	10.67	21.13	14.60
Paris	87	41	66	4	0.75	2	21.09	1.34	12.14	5.90
Savannah_6SW	89	46	69	3	3.09	1	28.35	5.74	13.13	5.98
Selmer	89	45	69	5	1.76	1	26.01	3.60	12.06	4.89
Union_City	86	44	68	5	0.13	2	20.31	0.88	8.27	2.02
Middle										
Clarksville_Sew	86	43	68	5	1.32	2	18.83	-0.54	11.81	6.09
Cookeville	86	38	66	5	2.71	2	22.04	0.77	6.99	0.75
Crossville_AP	84	38	66	7	1.82	2	20.90	-0.46	7.84	1.50
Dickson_AG	87	39	66	3	0.00	0	28.14	7.57	16.29	9.73
Dover_1W	86	43	67	5	1.10	1	21.01	0.77	12.89	6.55
Fayetteville_TN	88	45	69	7	1.09	1	18.97	-2.46	4.17	-1.98
Jamestown	87	39	65	5	2.44	2	21.63	1.90	7.85	1.96
Kingston_Spring	89	40	67	6	3.30	1	28.69	8.84	17.95	12.07
Lawrenceburg_Fl	87	45	68	6	3.86	1	26.88	4.73	10.07	3.74
Lewisburg	88	42	67	5	2.86	1	19.85	-1.06	7.82	1.49
Linden	87	42	68	6	3.47	1	26.52	5.05	15.56	9.08
Livingston_WLIV	87	39	67	5	3.51	2	23.03	3.72	8.21	2.42
Murfreesboro_5N	88	41	68	5	4.30	3	26.80	6.98	13.99	7.95
Nashville_Metro	88	43	68	4	7.24	1	27.46	9.41	17.04	11.23
Oneida	87	39	65	7	1.75	2	18.24	-1.61	6.12	0.14
Portland_TN	87	42	67	5	2.96	1	17.16	-1.97	12.07	6.24
Pulaski_Water_P	86	44	66	1	2.71	2	21.81	0.49	7.76	1.83
Shelbyville	87	43	67	4	0.02	1	20.81	-0.20	8.17	2.04
Sparta_TN	87	39	67	5	2.00	1	24.78	4.06	6.59	0.44
Springfield	87	41	67	6	4.77	1	24.42	5.84	13.77	8.06
Springhill	88	39	65	4	5.06	1	26.22	4.88	12.89	6.16
Tullahoma	85	44	66	3	0.00	0	21.12	-1.29	6.56	0.12
East										
Chattanooga/Lov	88	49	72	9	2.29	1	18.05	-3.28	4.69	-0.91
Cleveland_6NNE	87	46	69	7	0.00	0	19.35	-2.00	5.10	-0.69
Dayton	87	44	69	6	3.24	1	22.03	-0.06	7.53	1.46
Erwin_1W	89	45	67	9	0.95	3	11.18	-5.64	3.68	-1.63
Gatlinburg_2SW	92	40	68	9	2.38	4	18.56	-1.13	7.64	1.89
Greeneville	89	42	67	7	1.97	2	12.59	-2.62	5.27	0.75
Kingston_AG	88	42	70	9	2.74	1	22.02	-0.12	7.69	1.63
Knoxville_AP	90	46	71	9	2.63	3	17.18	-1.02	5.15	0.27
Newcomb	87	40	66	8	1.71	1	17.72	-2.13	6.42	0.44
Norris_4NE	87	42	67	7	2.10	1	26.65	7.19	12.50	6.93
Tri-City_RGNL_A	89	42	67	7	1.19	2	11.37	-3.38	3.40	-0.98
DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. Copyright 2010: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved!										

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